



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Public Health • Office of the State Health Director**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Leah Devlin, DDS, MPH  
State Health Director

***From the State Health Director***

Asthma is a significant concern for the people of North Carolina. Nearly one million North Carolinians report having ever been diagnosed with asthma, and over 600,000 adults and children in North Carolina are currently living with the disease. Asthma also presents a significant economic burden upon our state each year.

The North Carolina Asthma Plan is a comprehensive document that includes an overview of the burden of asthma in North Carolina; a discussion of the planning process; a strategic plan for addressing asthma; ways for sustaining the plan's initiatives; and an ongoing plan for evaluation and sustainability.

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is committed to carrying out the goals, objectives and priorities outlined in this state asthma plan, thus improving the quality of asthma care and management. North Carolina has a wealth of resources, individuals and organizations committed to reducing the burden of asthma. We look forward to bringing these important resources together for an even more unified effort to addressing asthma in our state.

It is with a great sense of pleasure and accomplishment that we announce and endorse the release of the 2007 North Carolina Asthma Plan.

We trust that the information included in this plan will guide asthma initiatives throughout our state. We invite and encourage all of our colleagues and stakeholders to join the North Carolina Division of Public Health in working to improve the quality of life for those with asthma.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah Devlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Leah M. Devlin, DDS, MPH  
North Carolina State Health Director